

PROCEEDINGS OF THE BROWN COUNTY
LAND CONSERVATION SUBCOMMITTEE

Pursuant to Section 18.94 Wis. Stats., a regular meeting of the Brown County Land Conservation Subcommittee was held on Monday, October 16, 2017 in Room 200, Northern Building, 305 E. Walnut St., Green Bay, WI

Present: Supervisors Norbert Dantine, Dave Kaster, Bernie Erickson, Tom Sieber, Dave Landwehr, Stan Kaczmarek

Also Present: County Conservationist Mike Mushinski, Technician Rama Zena; Supervisors Lund, Brusky, Kneiszel; Internal Auditor Dan Process, Senior Accountant Sandy Parmer, Finance Director David Ehlinger, HR Analyst Camille Stymiest, Director of Administration Chad Weininger; Executive Streckenbach, Deputy Executive Jeff Flynt; and other interested parties

I. Call Meeting to Order.

The meeting was called to order by Chairman Dantine at 6:00 p.m.

Dantine introduced and welcomed Stan Kaczmarek as the new Land Con member from the Farm Bureau, taking the place of their FSA Rep.

II. Approve/Modify Agenda.

Motion made by Supervisor Kaster, seconded by Supervisor Erickson to approve. Vote taken. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

III. Approve/Modify Minutes of September 25, 2017.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Kaster to approve. Vote taken. **MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

****BUDGET REVIEW****

Comments from the Public on Budget Items

REVIEW OF 2018 DEPARTMENT BUDGET

1. Land and Water Conservation – Review of 2018 department budget.

County Conservationist Mike Mushinski referred to his budget proposal handouts which were included in the packet and spoke to their new initiatives, revenues, expenses, and requested change to 2018 budget.

Sieber questioned if they had to recruit the demonstration farm addition. Mushinski informed they actively talked to producers. What they were seeing was a lot of neighbors and other producers doing cover crops and no till. To become a demonstration farm there was one more step that they go out and look for the right person and location to do that.

Erickson questioned if there were grants helping to pay towards the demonstration farm. Mushinski responded that the big funding source was NRCS and they had an addition to that agreement to fund 2018, 2019 & 2020. They pay a majority of the demonstration farm member salary and other resources.

Sieber questioned if they had to make a change to the budget book to reflect the SWRM money? Mushinski referred to the proposed budgetary amendment request handout and stated they had hoped to upgrade one of their smaller trucks to a 1 ton vehicle so they could pull an interseeder that NEW Water donated to Brown County as they couldn't physically pull it anywhere along with a lot of other pieces of equipment they have.

Mushinski stated, the two big changes were the contracted services and using the additional state funding to upgrade one of their trucks.

Sieber referred to pg. 218-Landowner Payments; he questioned the increase and what project it was. Technician Rama Zena responded that it was in their operations budget portion of it, it would also include the landowner payments in the upper east; it was new. Mushinski informed it was a new project. The upper east had low staffing dollars and practice dollars; it was just shy of \$700,000 total for that grant. A good share of that went to landowner payments for buffers and cover crops. Buffers were generally a onetime payment once installed and cover crops were 3-years of payments and a total of 1,000 acres a year they could do.

The \$700,000 was the total over several years. The original grant will be 3-years and generally they get an extension so they should be able to get 4-years out of it.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Erickson to propose the following budgetary amendment: Due to an overall net increase in state funding through the DATCP SWRM program, the Land & Water Conservation Department would like to replace an existing vehicle with a new 1 ton pickup truck. This vehicle is needed due to heavy equipment hauling needs in the Lower Fox Demonstration Farm Project, Upper East and the Plum-Kankapot Creeks Project. Increase State Grant Revenue by \$22,394, Decrease Land Owners Payment by \$3,500 and Increase Outlay Other \$5,000+ by \$25,894. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Motion made by Supervisor Erickson, seconded by Supervisor Kaster to adopt the budget as amended and pass it on to full County Board. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

****NON-BUDGET ITEMS****

Comments from the Public on Non-Budget Items

1. Open Positions Report.

The same Agronomist position was still open and they continue to look for grant funding to fund the position.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Kaster to receive and place on file. Vote taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Other

2. Such Other Matters as Authorized by Law. None.

3. Adjourn.

Motion made by Supervisor Sieber, seconded by Supervisor Erickson to adjourn at 5:46 p.m. Vote Taken. MOTION CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Respectfully submitted,

Alicia A. Loehlein
Recording Secretary